



Maine Department of Health and Human Services

MECMS Update 49

February 6, 2006

Billing News & Tips

**One link connects you to the six
OMS online provider portal tools**

Now you have a single, convenient link that takes you to one site for an array of information on your claims.

The Office of MaineCare Services has developed this link to six provider portals. With the tools available through the portals, you can find certain claims-related information whenever you need it.

Go to <http://oms.maine.gov/>. You'll see the OMS Portal Menu. From the menu, click on the link you need:

- Payment Lookup (MaineCare Payment Information Lookup)
- Procedure Code Lookup
- MECMS Claims Error Report
- MECMS Denied Duplicate Claims Lookup
- Prior Authorization (PA) Portal
- Temporary Claims Portal

Be sure to add <http://oms.maine.gov/> to your web browser's favorites list.

**Box 23, CMS/HCFA 1500 form requires
a valid prior authorization number**

Some providers are entering information other than a valid prior authorization number in Box 23 on the CMS/HCFA 1500 form.

23. PRIOR AUTHORIZATION NUMBER

Anything entered in Box 23 is read as a prior authorization number. If the information entered is not a valid prior authorization number, the claim will suspend and then deny.

Please check that you have entered a valid prior authorization number in the box.

**You now have online access to
HIPAA 835 transaction information**

The HIPAA 835 transaction, which is the electronic remittance advice information on third-party reimbursement payments and adjustments, is now available online to all providers.

Here's how to access the information:

First, go to http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/bms/innerthird/mecms_home_page.htm.

At 835 Remittance Advice Retrieval, click on [\(.doc\)](#).

You will then be asked to open or save the file containing the 835 Retrieval Procedures User's Manual. The manual has the detailed instructions on how to get the 835 transaction file from your Momentum ftp folder. The user's manual also gives you telephone numbers for access support.

The 835 transaction file is a HIPAA-compliant file containing the data displayed on the paper remittance advice. However, the file you retrieve will not be a printable copy of your paper RA.

(Continued on the next page.)

At the suggestion of providers, we plan to make some changes to the current 835 content that will enhance the information you receive:

- The RA number will be added.
- The member's name will be easier to recognize.
- The Medical Record number will be added.
- The listing of procedure codes will be more consistent.
- The LX incrementer will properly increment.

We will let you know as we add these enhancements.

Please note that because providers use many different accounting packages, MaineCare support can only help you with retrieval of the 835 transaction file. ■

Contact Us

E-mail us at: BMS.inquiry@maine.gov

Call us at: 1-800-321-5557
TTY: 1-800-423-4331
Augusta area: 207-624-7539

On the web at: www.maine.gov/dhhs/bms

Write us at: Inquiry Unit
Office of MaineCare Services
11 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0011

At our website, you can download this newsletter, access handy information such as billing instructions, and sign up for our listserv to have OMS news delivered to your inbox. ■